

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4423

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of direct housing loans and medical care from the Department of Veterans Affairs for Native Hawaiians.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 23, 2024

Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. SCHATZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of direct housing loans and medical care from the Department of Veterans Affairs for Native Hawaiians.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Parity for Native Ha-
5 waiian Veterans Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION TO PROGRAM FOR DIRECT HOUS-**
 2 **ING LOANS MADE TO NATIVE AMERICAN VET-**
 3 **ERANS BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-**
 4 **FAIRS.**

5 Section 3765(3)(B) of title 38, United States Code,
 6 is amended by striking “as that term” and all that follows
 7 through “42 Stat. 108)” and inserting “as defined in sec-
 8 tion 801 of the Native American Housing Assistance and
 9 Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4221)”.

10 **SEC. 3. IMPROVEMENT OF PROVISION OF MEDICAL CARE**
 11 **FROM DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**
 12 **FOR NATIVE HAWAIIANS.**

13 (a) REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS OF CERTAIN CARE
 14 PROVIDED THROUGH NATIVE HAWAIIAN HEALTH CARE
 15 SYSTEM.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 17
 17 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by in-
 18 serting after section 1703F the following new sec-
 19 tion:

20 **“§ 1703G. Reimbursement of costs of certain care pro-**
 21 **vided through Native Hawaiian health**
 22 **care system**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall reimburse a
 24 Native Hawaiian health care system for the costs of care
 25 or services provided through such system to veterans eligi-
 26 ble for such care or services under the laws administered

1 by the Secretary, regardless of whether such care or serv-
 2 ices are provided directly through such system, through
 3 purchased or referred care, or through a contract for trav-
 4 el.

5 “(b) NATIVE HAWAIIAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM DE-
 6 FINED.—The term ‘Native Hawaiian health care system’
 7 has the meaning given that term in section 12 of the Na-
 8 tive Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act (42 U.S.C.
 9 11711).”.

10 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
 11 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended
 12 by inserting after the item relating to section 1703F
 13 the following new item:

“1703G. Reimbursement of costs of certain care provided through Native Ha-
 waiian health care system.”.

14 (b) EXEMPTION FROM COST SHARING.—Section
 15 1730A(b) of such title is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “; or” and in-
 17 serting a semicolon;

18 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at
 19 the end and inserting “; or”; and

20 (3) by adding at the end the following new
 21 paragraph:

1 “(3) is a Native Hawaiian (as defined in section
2 12 of the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improve-
3 ment Act (42 U.S.C. 11711)).”.

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